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Date

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**METHODS FOR QUENCHING PATHOGEN
INACTIVATORS IN BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS**

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No.
09/110,776, filed July 6, 1998, *now U.S. Pat. No. 6,270,952*
Application Serial No. 60/070,597, filed January 6, 1998, the disclosure of which is
incorporated herein by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

10 This application relates to methods of treating biological materials, such as
blood products, with a nucleophilic compound to quench reactive electrophilic
compounds in the material.

BACKGROUND ART

15 The transmission of disease by blood products and other biological materials
remains a serious health problem. While significant advances in blood donor
20 screening and blood testing have occurred, viruses such as hepatitis B (HBV),
hepatitis C (HCV), and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) may escape detection
in blood products during testing due to low levels of virus or viral antibodies. In
addition to the viral hazard, there are currently no licensed tests to screen for the
presence of bacteria or protozoans in blood intended for use in transfusions. The risk
25 also exists that a hitherto unknown pathogen may become prevalent in the blood